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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/071,426	02/08/2002	Jochen Ziegler	US 20 01 0282	1730

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EXAMINER

PATEL, TULSIDAS C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/071,426

Applicant(s)

ZIEGLER ET AL.

Examiner

T. C. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6, 8-10, 12 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 7, 11, 14-17, 21, 23, 24, 27 and 30-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20, 22, 25, 26, 28 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *General Status*

1. This is a Final Action on the Merits. Claims 1-32 are pending in the case.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1, 7, 11, 17, 21, 23, 24 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Charlton (US 5,755,582).

Charlton, in figures 1-8, discloses a device 34 with a case and an electrical connection jack 122, located on the case to which an electrical lead can be directly or indirectly connected, wherein a lift device 58 is provided with which the connection jack can be adjusted relative to the case between a lifted position (figure 8) and a lowered position (figure 1). Wherein the device is equipped with a spring mechanism that pretensions the connection jack in a pre-tensions the connection jack in a lifted position with an engaging mechanism 58 that can be operated by a pressure force in lowering direction and locks into the connection jack in its lowered position, wherein the a first pressure operation the connection jack is moved from its lifted position to its lowered position (figure 2) where the engaging mechanism is engaged, and a subsequent second pressure operation releases the locking of the engaging mechanism so that the spring mechanism moves the connection jack to its lifted position.

For claims 7, 23 and 24, the device is locked in lifted position (figure 8) and the lifted position a release mechanism is provided so that the jack can be lowered. For claim 21, the latching arrangement also works as damping mechanism due to spring-loaded plunger 60 and ratchet plate 88. For claims 11 and 27, the jack works in both the positions.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 14-16 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thoma et al. (US 5,801,953) in view of Charlton (US 5,755,582).

Thoma et al. discloses a device that can include TDR or OTDR or WDM. However, Thoma et al. does not disclose the details of socket connected to the device and also does not disclose the socket to have lowered and lifted positions. Charlton discloses a device that has a socket, which has lowered as well lifted positions. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Thoma et al. and use socket of Charlton, so that the socket can have lowered and lifted positions, so as to protect the socket.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 2-6, 8-10, 12 and 13 are allowed.

7. Claims 18-20, 22, 25, 26, 28 and 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Response to Arguments*

8. Applicant's arguments filed 9/5/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant added claims 18-32. Some of the added claims are rejected. The Applicant has argued that the reference does not disclose the device of Charlton related to a device for measuring and or verifying of optical and/or electrical networks. The Applicant is reminded that it is the device that is being claimed and the recitation 'for measuring and/or verifying of optical and/or electrical networks' merely suggests the application of the device for measuring and/or verifying. The socket of the reference can be used for verifying, if there is current through the system or not and therefore, can be used for verifying electrical network.

The claims, which were indicated as containing allowable subject matter have been declared allowable. In addition, claims containing similar limitations in the newly presented set of claims, have been declared as allowable.

*Conclusion*

9. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to T. C. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 308-1736. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (703) 308-2710. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1736.



T. C. Patel  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839

tcp  
October 1, 2003